

**From:** [Ruhl, Christopher](#)  
**To:** [Spiers, Brett](#)  
**Cc:** [Enders, Jhana](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Amarillo, TX residential phosgene gas incident - OSC Enders and START contractor deployed  
**Date:** Tuesday, January 3, 2017 8:58:21 AM

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FYSA

Chris Ruhl

USEPA R6 Emergency Response Team Leader

Federal On Scene Coordinator

(214) 665-7356 office

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**From:** Thilsted, Eugene  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2017 8:56 AM  
**To:** Rush, Randall ; Ruhl, Christopher  
**Cc:** McPherson, Kenneth ; Carroll, Craig ; Acosta, Gerardo ; Weiler, Gregory  
**Subject:** RE: Amarillo, TX residential phosgene gas incident - OSC Enders and START contractor deployed

Chris and others,

I made a call to the Texas Dept. of Ag Pesticide Section and discussed the incident that took place in Amarillo, TX with Perry Cervantes. Perry informed me that the contact would be Steven Boston (Assist. Regional Director-Lead Inspector) out of Lubbock, TX. He also informed me that Camilo Gavzon (Inspector) was assigned the case. Perry will be sending additional information. I will forward to all once I receive.

Steven Boston's phone number is: 806-799-8555 (O) or 806-559-7509 (M)

Camilo Gavzon's phone number is: 806-237-8420

*Eugene Thilsted*

**Pesticides & Toxics Section (6MM-XP)**

**1445 Ross Avenue**

**Dallas, TX 75202-2733**

**214.665.2782**

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**From:** Rush, Randall  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2017 8:40 AM  
**To:** Thilsted, Eugene <[Thilsted.Eugene@epa.gov](mailto:Thilsted.Eugene@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Ruhl, Christopher <[Ruhl.Christopher@epa.gov](mailto:Ruhl.Christopher@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Amarillo, TX residential phosgene gas incident - OSC Enders and START contractor deployed

Thanks for helping on this Gene, Chris is looking for a TX DOA contact at a more investigator response level.

**Randy Rush**

**Policy Advisor - Agriculture**

**U.S. EPA - Region 6**

**1445 Ross Avenue (6WQ)**

**Dallas, TX 75202**

**214-665-7107**

**[rush.randall@epa.gov](mailto:rush.randall@epa.gov)**

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**From:** Ruhl, Christopher  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2017 8:05 AM  
**To:** Rush, Randall <[Rush.Randall@epa.gov](mailto:Rush.Randall@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Amarillo, TX residential phosgene gas incident - OSC Enders and START contractor deployed  
Not yet

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 3, 2017, at 7:17 AM, Rush, Randall <[Rush.Randall@epa.gov](mailto:Rush.Randall@epa.gov)> wrote:

Thanks for the info. Did you get a TX Dept of Ag contact from Steve or Craig?

**Randy Rush**  
**Policy Advisor - Agriculture**  
**U.S. EPA - Region 6**  
**1445 Ross Avenue (6WQ)**  
**Dallas, TX 75202**  
**214-665-7107**  
[rush.randall@epa.gov](mailto:rush.randall@epa.gov)

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**From:** Ruhl, Christopher  
**Sent:** Monday, January 02, 2017 10:57 PM  
**To:** Rush, Randall <[Rush.Randall@epa.gov](mailto:Rush.Randall@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FW: Amarillo, TX residential phosgene gas incident - OSC Enders and START contractor deployed  
Sorry meant to cc. you.  
Chris Ruhl  
USEPA R6 Emergency Response Team Leader  
Federal On Scene Coordinator  
(214) 665-7356 office

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**From:** Ruhl, Christopher  
**Sent:** Monday, January 02, 2017 7:34 PM  
**To:** Vargo, Steve <[Vargo.Steve@epa.gov](mailto:Vargo.Steve@epa.gov)>; Carroll, Craig <[Carroll.Craig@epa.gov](mailto:Carroll.Craig@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Crossland, Ronnie <[Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov](mailto:Crossland.Ronnie@epa.gov)>; Smith, Monica <[smith.monica@epa.gov](mailto:smith.monica@epa.gov)>; Enders, Jhana <[Enders.Jhana@epa.gov](mailto:Enders.Jhana@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Amarillo, TX residential phosgene gas incident - OSC Enders and START contractor deployed  
Steve and Craig-  
As a heads up, we are currently responding to an incident that appears to be a residential exposure to a restricted use pesticide. Can you assist in identifying a Texas Department of Ag contact that we may coordinate with? Also, the exposure was was to phosphine gas not phosgene as mentioned in the report below. Jhana is our OSC on scene.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Ruhl, Christopher" <[Ruhl.Christopher@epa.gov](mailto:Ruhl.Christopher@epa.gov)>

**Date:** January 2, 2017 at 11:15:39 AM CST

**To:** R6 Response Notify <[R6\\_Response\\_Notify@epa.gov](mailto:R6_Response_Notify@epa.gov)>, "Assunto, Carmen" <[assunto.carmen@epa.gov](mailto:assunto.carmen@epa.gov)>

**Subject: Amarillo, TX residential phosgene gas incident - OSC Enders and START contractor deployed**

4 people are dead and up to an additional 6 people have been exposed to what is believed to have been phosgene gas. Reports indicate that a resident mixed aluminum phosphide with water which produced phosgene gas. TCEQ notified EPA of the incident and has requested assistance. The incident is located in Amarillo, TX. EPA has dispatched OSC Enders and START contractor.

<http://www.newschannel10.com/story/34164863/developing-4-confirmed-dead-hazmat-crews-respond-to-northeast-amarillo-home>

Chris Ruhl

USEPA R6 Emergency Response Team Leader

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